

Remarks

In the present Office Communication, as well as the Office Communication dated September 4, 2003, the Examiner has objected to the incorporation of material by reference from WO 98/51325 as requested in the Reply dated July 2, 2002. In particular, the Examiner has asserted that the text of the amendments is not identical to text from WO 98/51325.

For clarity, applicants note that "Reply dated July 2, 2002" refers to the Reply mailed by applicant on July 2, 2002. This distinguishes this Reply from the Amendments to the Sequence Listing dated June 28, 2002 and hand-delivered to the USPTO on July 1, 2002.

In the Reply dated March 4, 2004, applicants requested that the USPTO not enter the amendments to the specification as requested in the reply dated "July 1, 2002" (emphasis added). This is incorrect. The Reply should have recited "July 2, 2002." In any event, in the present Office Communication, the Examiner has indicated that the Replies dated June 28, 2002 and July 2, 2002 have already been entered and cannot be "unentered." Accordingly, the Examiner has indicated that deletion of any of the amendments from the specification requires that applicants request deletion of each amendment individually.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the request, in the Reply dated March 4, 2004, to not enter the amendments to the specification as indicated in the reply dated July 1, 2002 [sic] be withdrawn. Instead, please amend the specification as noted above, in the "Amendments in the Specification" section.

The amendments in the "Amendments in the Specification" section do not delete all of the material incorporated by the amendments of the Reply dated July 2, 2002. In the Reply dated July 2, 2002, applicants have presented six amendments to the specification:

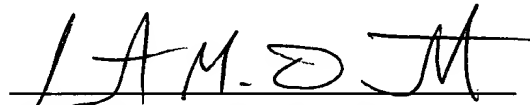
- 1) Amendments to Table 1, page 19;
- 2) Amendments to Table 3, page 21;

- 3) Amendments to the paragraph at page 20, line 22, to page 21, line 2;
- 4) Amendments to the paragraph at page 21, lines 5 to 11;
- 5) Paragraphs inserted at page 5, line 12; and
- 6) Paragraph inserted at page 6, line 14.

Amendments 1) to 4), above, reflected changes to SEQ ID NOS and incorporation material from the sequence listing. Accordingly, these amendments do not rely upon an incorporation of material by reference from WO 98/51325.

Amendments 5) and 6), above, are incorporations of material by reference from WO 98/51325. The present reply deletes the text added by these amendments. Accordingly, the text which was incorporated by reference from WO 98/51325 in the Reply dated July 2, 2002 has been deleted.

Respectfully submitted,


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